P

App. F. IX-4

Previous References

1928.
(V. P.

File No. 48-28

Serial Nos. 3-4.

Later References

General and Revenue Secretariat.

Serial Nos. Two

P.9/E

Part B for August 1929

SUBJECT

Regarding the entrusting of collection work in Village Panchayats to the Patels and Shanbhogues.

Sl. 4

To
The Rev. Comr.
Deputy Comr. Hassan dist.
& Comptroller

L. 1131-2 dated 10-8-29

Approves of the ~~D~~ D. C's action in regard to the village Panchayets

C.K. Venkataramanan
28.9.29.

G.R..S VI G 34]

SUBJECT.....

.....

.....

Diary No. of letter replied to.....

General and Revenue Secretariat

( )

the 192

Date of issue 10 · 8 · 1929

Signed by... Mr. D. K. S. Iyer

S

May this be

i Printed ?

ii treated as a standing order ?

iii published in the Gazette, English Part ?

iv translated ?

v placed at the disposal of the pres

vi published in the Gazette, Kannada Part ?

Section V. P

File No. 48– 28

Serial No. 4

Proceedings of the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore.

Read—

Letter no. L. 4691/V.P 48-28-29 dy 2.2-1-29 from the Chief Secretary to Govt to the D.C, Hassan, directing that the suggestion of the Basetipur village panchayet that the Secretary of the Ranchayet may do the collection work ~~Order Thereon No.~~ be approved and the arrangement tried for a year or two.

(2) Letter no. C. S 704/27-28 dy. 4/6-5-29 from the Rev. Comm in support forwarding copy of letter no. R.O.C 5-79-2

1st Feb 1929 from the
C, Hassan explaining
circumstances under
which he had ordered that
chaukidari should work
as tax collection work
the ~~Bagpat~~ Bageshwar
Gram panchayat and recommending
ally that the collection
k in all the Revenue
~~ved~~ the entrusted to village
ers only.

No. L 1131-2/ Revenue
dy 10. 8. 29.

~~List of enclosures.~~

In reply to the
tructions conveyed in the
ff Secretary's letter of 22nd
Jan 1929, Government are
ased to approve of the action taken by the
~~desire that the~~ Deputy Commissioner in regard
~~Chaukidari may be~~ to the village Panchayats
~~entrusted for the~~ Ctes.
~~Hachum~~

~~Copied by~~

~~Examined by~~

WD 1858—GPK—1,000,00—21-12-28

22/2/29 Mr.

In view for Gen. Dep. & Secy. to Govt.

to the Rev. Com.
" D. C. Alm
" Compt

Letter No.Roc. 579-98 dated 1st February 1929 from the Deputy Commissioner, Hassan District, to the Revenue Commissioner in Mysore.

With reference to your docket No.C. 2079/28-29 dated the 11th January 1929, in re. the appointment of the Shanbhogue of Bagespur for collection work of the local village Panchayet in the Arsikere taluk, I have the honour to forward herewith the file of vernacular correspondence ending with the Arsikere taluk Amildar's report No. 164/V.P. of 1929 dated 22nd January 1929 on the subject as desired in the above.

2. From the enclosed correspondence, it will be seen that the Shanbhogue was looking after the collection work of the Panchayet ever since its constitution in 1918. Every year some of the villagers and Panchayet members petitioned both this office and the Amildar, complaining against him and the Amildar, who personally enquired into the matter reported that the village was a highly factious one and that the several allegations made against him were groundless and frivolous and recommended that as he was a Shanbhogue of 50 years standing ~~xkx~~ he might be allowed to continue to work as before on the ground that the collection work of the Panchayet would suffer otherwise and the Government cannot have sufficient grip over the non-official secretary or any other whom the Panchayet wanted to appoint in his stead. In submitting the Amildar's report to this Office, the Sub Division Officer of Hole Narsipur stated that the majority of the panchayetdars were for replacing the Shanbhogue by the Secretary and recommended that the desire of the Panchayetdars might be granted and the Secretary tried for a year. I approved of this recommendation of the Sub Division Officer and issued orders accordingly. But when I was at Arsikere subsequently thereafter, I learnt that the Shanbhogue was a very competent and honorable man and that the complaints against him were due to personal zid. The Shanbhogue also put in a review petition to me praying for r consideration of my previous orders and offering himself to work honorably without claiming any remuneration therefor. As I found that his previous work was also good, and he was one of the members of the Panchayet, I revised my orders and directed that he might continue to look after the collection work as before on the authority of your memo No.C. 5704-27-28 dated 1-8-1928, which had just then been received in this Office. This order never meant that the Shanbhogue was the sole collection agency and the Patel had nothing to do with the collection work, but it was only to restore the Shanbhogue to his former position to which he was entitled as regards the collection of Village Panchyet revenue as per rules The Amildar reports in his No. 158-88/V.P. dated 11th January that after hard and long contention of the Panchyet chairman, my orders were given effect to and the Shanbhogye was put in charge the Village Panchaet accounts etc., only from 1st January 1929. His said report and the two review petitions of the Shanbhogue referred to above are also forwarded herewith for reference.

3. In this connection, I may further mention that the G.O.No.L. 548-57/V.P. 1-27-16 dated 27th July 1927 is practically a ruling issued by Government in exercise of the powers reserved to them und sections 34 and 65 (2) (g) of the Village Panchayet Regulation. Th Order lays down that besides the appointment of a literate man, in case one is wanting among the Panchayetdars, to look after the preparation and maintenance of accounts, registers etc., by the Panchayet under section 34 of the Village Panchayet Regulation, the Patels and Shanbhogues of villages will be entrusted with the collection work of the Panchayet and the usual potgi ~~xixix~~ paid to them therefor. From this, it is clear that the agency for the preparation and maintenance of accounts etc., should be different from the collection agency and the Panchayet cannot have the option of entrusting both these items of work to one individual contrary to these rulings of Government, even though the powers of delegating the duty of collection of revenue vest in them under para 19 of the rules issued with G.O. No.L. 4347/V.P. 28-29-126

dated 6th January 1927, in as much as it is not only undesirable but also unsafe to entrust both these items of work to one and the same person, as it does not afford scope for counter-check over each other. Besides, the Secretaries of Panchayets are only assistants to the chairmen to help him in his office work and are responsible only for proper maintenance of accounts, registers, etc., of the Panchayet, and so far as I see, there is no provision of law or orders of Government to entrust him with the collection work also in addition to his other duties. Above all, under Section 40 (2) of the Village Panchayet Regulation, the Amildars of Talukas are responsible for collection of Village Panchayet revenue to a great extent and have to take action to recover the same, as arrears of Land Revenue, in case the Village Panchayets neglect to do so. As such, it seems to be very desirable that they must have a free hand in making selection of the collection agency of Panchayets so that prompt recovery of the dues may be ensured and unneccessary work and labour that would devolve on them on this account otherwise, minimised. The very fact that many of the Panchayets have very heavy arrears outstanding recovery for a long time goes to show that the collection work will not be satisfactory unless the Patels and Shanbhogues of villages, who can tactfully and easily collect the dues with their usual local influence and over whom the local officers can have better grip than over other non-official gentlemen are entrusted with it. Your letter No.C. 5704-28 dated 30th July 1928, to the Chief Secretary supports this view and you have in forwarding a copy of the said letter to me conveyed instructions that the G.O. of the 27th July 1927 quoted above in this behalf should be given effect to immediately. In consideration of all these circumstances, I passed orders directing the Shanbhogue to continue to attend to the collection work.

However as the Chief Secretary to Government has conveyed instructions in his letter No.L. 4691/V.P. 48-28-2 dated 22-1-1929 that the Secretary of the Panchayet may be put in charge of the collection work as resolved by the Panchayet, I have countermanded my orders and asked the Amildar to give effect to the above instructions conveyed by the Chief Secretary and transfer the charge of the collection work to the Secretary of the Panchayet. As this will be a precedent and the other Panchayets in the District, where the collection work is being attended to by the village officials may also desire to have their own collection agency, which it may not be advantageous in the interests of Panchayets in the circumstances explained above, I request you to kindly move the Government once again and obtain their orders to entrust the collection work only to the village officials in all cases.

Copy.

For Revenue Commissioner.

V.P.48-28-3

No. C. 5704/27-28 Enclosure one Vernacular file Boneary

OFFICE OF THE REVENUE COMMISSIONER IN MYSORE.

Dated, Bangalore, 4th May 1929.

FROM

P. G. D'SOUZA, ESQ., B.A., B.L.,
Revenue Commissioner in Mysore

GEN. REV. 4916 8 MAY 1929 L. S. G. BRANCH

To

The General Secretary to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, Bangalore

SIR,

(A) Adverting to Chief Secretary's letter No.L.4691/V.P.48-29-2 dated the 22nd January 1929 to the Deputy Commissioner, Hassan in re. entrusting of collection work in the Bageshpur village Panchay Arsikere taluk, to the Secretary of the Village Panchayet and in continuation of my letter No.C.5704/28-29 dated the 1st August 19 regarding the entrusting of collection work in Village Panchayets to the Patels and Shanbhogs etc., I have the honour to forward herewith copy of letter No.R.O.C. 579-26 dated the 1st February 1929, from the Deputy Commissioner, Hassan District, explaining the circumstances under which he had ordered that the Shanbhog should look after the collection work of the Bageshpur village Panchayet and finally recommending that the collection work in all village Panchayets should be entrusted to the Village Officers only.

I agree with the Deputy Commissioner, Hassan District, that it is desirable to have the collection work attended to by the Patels and Shanbhogues. My experience is that when the collection is left to the Village Panchayet, not even 20 per cent of the amount is collected and these are very serious charges. Though the annual income of the Village Panchayet is about 18 lakhs, scarcely half the amount is collected in spite of the special attention paid to the collection work. In these circumstances whatever be the purely technical aspect of the question due to too literary an interpretation of the provisions, I am of opinion that for the present it should be made a rule that the Village Officers should carry on the collections

5

but in places where the Village Panchayets are prepared to take t entire responsibility for such collections and the agency they emp will agree to the disciplinary control by the Amildar, this may be permitted. In places where the Village Panchayets collect the funds directly the accounts should be checked by the Amildar at least once a year and no withdrawals allowed without the counter-signature of the Amildar.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Assistant Commissioner,
For Revenue Commissioner,
Absent from the station.

Serial No.

M

V.P. 68-27-K19 on the subject is the

Gb
18/1/29 KCarl/S

The Assistant has sent up a note which is a quite clear that may whether the matter up with

WD
21/5

The said note has been withdrawn & linked here to.

Gb
23/5/29

a Consolidated notes

WD
29/5/29

The Dy's action may be appd. See note in the file.

CSY
1/6

Send with a dft for appl

Nair
4/7.

WD
23/7.

approved
Bn.
1.8.29

WD
1/8

No. L. 1131-2 dy 10-8-29 To Rev. Comm. D.C, Hassan & Complr.

Approved of the D.C's action in regard to the rice

General and Revenue Secretariat | V.P File No. 48 of 1928.

Serial No.

the agency they employ will agree to the disciplinary control of the Municipality, the election may be left to the Panchayats.

Submitted for orders.

15/5/29

The above note by the chief Secy has noted on the position to be adopted in regard to Panchayats and the position of Govt in regard to the question on hand and the Law Secy has acquiesced in his views. Under the circumstance it is doubtful if any interference on the part of Govt and consequent curtailment of the Powers of the Panchayats which would be a set back to local Self Govt is desirable. It is not clearly made out that the existing powers of control supervision, inspection of the Dy Comr and the Assistant are not enough if the Dy Comr may perhaps be asked to make enquiries to clearly point out the necessity for further interference

1615

Please submit the file when the proposal for discussion with the Ministers is ready.

NOTE—Secretariat stationery.

WD 021—GPB—30,000—21-8-28

Serial No.

8 Letter No C. 5704/27-28 & 4/6. 5.29/from the Rev Comr in respect.

Forwards copy of letter No R.Dc.579-268 the 1st Feb 1929/from the Dy Comr Hassan Dist enclosing the circumstances under which he has ordered that the Shanubhogue should look after the Collection (work) of the Bageshpur Village Panchayet and recommending finally that the Collection work in all the Panchayets should be entrusted to Village Officers only.

In this Office letter No 4469/V.P 48-29-28 the 22d Jany 1929 the Dy Comr of the Hassan Dist was asked to arrange for the Collection of Work of the Bageshpur Village Panchayet being attended to by the Secretary of the Panchayet for a year or two, and a copy of the above letter was sent to the Rev Comr for information

Thereafter the Rev Comr has now forwarded the file of papers received from the Dy Comr, Hassan Dist in the matter with a strong recommendation that a rule should be made that the Village Officers should carry on the Collections in the Village Panchayets, at in places where the Village Panchayets are prepared to take the entire responsibility for such Collections and the

1. sheet